

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ACDA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

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SUBJECT: FIRST SOVIET PRESS REACTIONS TO REPORTS ON
DAEDALUS DECISION REVERSAL

REF: MOSCOW 13429

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. U.S. PRESS REPORTS THAT THE
U.S. HAS DECIDED TO APPROVE DAEDALUS SALES OF EARTH

SCANNING EQUIPMENT TO CHINA HAVE DRAWN SOVIET PRESS COMMENTARY. REFTEL PARA FOUR REPORTS TASS ARTICLE IN SUNDAY (JUNE 11) PRAVDA CITING NEW YORK POST STORY THAT U.S. HAS NOW DECIDED "TO SPEED UP SUPPLY OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA" FOLLOWING BRZEZINSKI VISIT TO PRC.

2. SIGNED JUNE 12 TASS ENGLISH LANGUAGE STORY (WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN IN DOMESTIC SOVIET NEWS MEDIA) STATES THAT "THE WHITE HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, PRESSURED AS IT IS BY THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL MONOPOLIES, IS RECONSIDERING THE QUESTION OF EXPORTING TO CHINA TECHNOLOGY, WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES, MIGHT BE USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES." ARTICLE, CITING NEW YORK TIMES REPORT, GOES ON TO SAY THAT "THE U.S. HAS AGREED TO CHINESE REQUESTS TO DELIVER TO PEKING INFRA-RED RAY AERIAL OBSERVATION INSTRUMENTS, WHICH THE U.S. DOES NOT RPT NOT INTEND TO SELL TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE 'SOCIALIST COMMUNITY' BECAUSE THEY MIGHT BE PUT TO MILITARY USE." ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT "THE WHITE HOUSE IS APPARENTLY NOT TROUBLED BY THE FACT THAT CHINA MIGHT USE THESE INSTRUMENTS FOR COMBAT PURPOSES."

3. TASS ENGLISH ARTICLE ALSO SAYS THAT:

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-- SECRET SINO-FRENCH TALKS BETWEEN "ONE MORE CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION AND HIGH PLACED FRENCH MILITARY LEADERS" ARE UNDERWAY IN PARIS;

-- PRC MILITARY DELEGATIONS IN RECENT WEEKS HAVE VISITED FRANCE, BRITAIN, SWITZERLAND, BELGIUM, THE FRG AND DENMARK. SIMILAR DELEGATIONS ARE PREPARING TO VISIT ITALY AND SWEDEN TO PURCHASE ARMS;

-- DESPITE CHINESE TERRITORIAL CLAIMS ON ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS - WHICH "WESTERN CAPITALS CANNOT BE UNINFORMED ABOUT" - WESTERN MILITARY COOPERATION WITH CHINA "IS BEING INCREASED AT AN EVER INCREASING PACE."

4. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY REPEATING SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT WESTERN WEAPONS PURCHASED BY CHINA CAN BE TURNED "IN ANY DIRECTION," AND THAT "ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE MILITARIST DESIGNS OF PEKING BY DEFINITE WESTERN CIRCLES, WHICH ARE CONCLUDING EVER NEW ARMAMENTS DEALS WITH CHINA, TRANSCENDS THE LIMITS OF ORDINARY COMMERCIAL-ECONOMIC RELATIONS AMONG STATES" AND CONSTITUTES "A LINE FRAUGHT WITH A SERIOUS DANGER

TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE." END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. SIGNED ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TASS COMMENTARY WAS OBVIOUSLY AIMED AT
A FOREIGN AUDIENCE. WE EXPECT FURTHER SOVIET PRESS
ATTACKS ON REPORTED DAEDALUS DECISION. TOON

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